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The Chat

Vol. 79 FALL 2015 No. 4

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The Ornithological Society of the Carolinas

THE CHAT

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Cover: Roseate Spoonbill, 27 September 2013, Huntington Beach State Park, SC. Photo by Jim Guyton.

2015 Spring Migration Counts in North Carolina

Marilyn Westphal
P.O. Box 1427, Hendersonville, NC 28793 mjwestph@ret.unca.edu

During the 2015 season 21 count areas participated, one less (Roanoke Rapids) than the past two years. Although there were fewer count areas, the 2015 count was quite good recording the highest total species (247) and the greatest effort measured in total party-hours (1439.60) in the past 15 years. It also recorded the second highest number of participants (473) and the second highest number of total birds (99,434).

No exceptionally rare birds were found, but many of the more difficult to find species were located including Black-billed Cuckoo and Bay-breasted Warbler in Transylvania County; Olive-sided Flycatcher, Golden-winged Warbler, and Nashville Warbler in Forsyth County, a late Greater White-fronted Goose on the Greensboro count, a White-rumped Sandpiper on the Jordan Lake count, American Bittern and Merlin on the Durham count, an Anhinga on the Raven Rock State Park count, and three Eared Grebes photographed in Onslow County. Mississippi Kites were found well inland on the Buncombe County and Chapel Hill counts. Following an outstanding winter showing of Pine Siskins many lingering birds remained into May in almost every count area with a total of 969 counted.

North Carolina has such a wide diversity of habitats from sandy beaches to pine woods to mountainous spruce/fir forests that not many of the 247 species counted can be found throughout every corner of the state. Only 20 species were found in every count area including Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, and American Goldfinch. Not only was the Wood Thrush found in every count area, but numbers increased slightly from their lowest years on spring count records, 2011-2013, both in total numbers and in birds per field hour. They remain well below numbers occurring on spring counts in the 1960's, however, when there were typically more than one per field-hour. By the early 2000's numbers had declined to between 0.40 and 0.45 per field-hour and between 2011 and 2013 had declined to an average of 0.26 per field-hour. In the past two years the numbers increased slightly to 0.31 per field-hour. Let's hope those numbers continue to increase.

The most abundant species found, totaling over 2000 individuals each, included in order of abundance (highest to lowest) Northern Cardinal, American Robin, American Crow, Common Grackle, European Starling, Laughing Gull (abundant but exclusive to the Onslow County count), Tufted Titmouse, Eastern Towhee, Canada Goose, Double-crested Cormorant,

Barn Swallow, and Carolina Wren. Most of these species are found in good numbers throughout the state. Our other namesake species, the Carolina Chickadee, came in at 16th behind Red-eyed Vireo, Yellow-rumped Warbler, and American Goldfinch. Once again the most common and widespread species was Northern Cardinal.

Details of individual counts including names of compilers and participants as well as count highlights and a list of species found exclusively on that count follow.

Mountains

Transylvania County – count date April 29th, 110 species, 4,155 individuals, 28 participants in 13 parties, and 3 feeder-watchers, 82.00 party-hours. Elevation ranges from 2100 to 5600 ft. Weather: Overcast skies with 2 hours of steady rain mid-morning, 52 – 59° F.

Compiler: Norma Siebenheller (sieb@citcom.net)

Participants: Marvin Barg, Michele Barg, Dick Blee, Sylvia Blee, Linda Cooper, Nancy Cowell, Bruce Cox, Ron Dunkelberg and brother, Susan Goldsworthy, Jerry Griggs, Gary Harris, Kathy Harris, Richard Jackson, Mike Judd, Joan MacDonald, Mike McMann, Sherry Minnich, Janie Owens, Sue Perry, Bill Siebenheller, Norma Siebenheller, Mark Simpson, Barrie Taylor, Bill Thomas, Charlie Threatte, Linda Threatte, Noel Thumer, Harriet Walls, Marilyn Westphal and Ruth Young.

Exclusives: Black-billed Cuckoo, Bay-breasted Warbler

Notes: Despite the early date and a two-hour rainfall during usually productive midmorning hours, Transylvania birders managed to amass a respectable total of 110 species on our 2015 spring bird count. Some highlights were a Common Loon at Lake Toxaway, a good showing of 37 Great Blue Herons at their Ecusta Pond nesting grounds, a migrant Black-billed Cuckoo at Hospital Fields, a Black-capped Chickadee at high altitude, two singing Tennessee Warblers, and more than 220 Pine Siskins, which have been abundant this year. Disappointments included failure to find any of our four known species of owls, and the sighting of only a single Solitary Sandpiper to represent the shorebird clan. Nevertheless we were pleased with our successes, and our total numbers were about average for this count.

Norma Siebenheller

Pisgah Ridge, Great Balsam and Plott Balsam Mountains IBA – count dates spanned from May 14-19th with teams selecting which of those days to do their section, 82 species, 3,105 individuals, 25 participants in 11 parties, 75.60 party-hours. Elevation ranges for this count run from 3500 to 6100 feet.

Weather: Mild weather prevailed throughout most of May providing several good days for teams to select from to complete their sections.

Temperatures were largely in the 50's and 60's and most days were clear or partly cloudy with low to moderate winds.

Compiler: Marilyn Westphal (mjwestph@ret.unca.edu)

Participants: Luke Cannon, Tim Carstens, Nancy Casey, Robert Emmott, Jackson Evans, Tom Flagg, Barbara Goergen, Sheila Gregory, Jamie Harrelson, Robert Johnson, Stacy Johnson, Gail Lankford, Charlie Lankford, Terry Lee, Pat McKee, Nora Murdock, Naomi Otterness, Catherine Reid, Steve Semanchuk, Mark Simpson, Tom Tribble, Lou Weber, Marilyn Westphal, Connie Wulcowicz and Stan Wulcowicz

Exclusives: Northern Saw-whet Owl

Notes: This was the tenth anniversary of the spring count for the Pisgah/ Balsam IBA. The weather was unusually warm and mild during and before the count period and many species may have started nesting a little earlier than usual. Total species and total birds were slightly higher than average, the number of participants tied the previous high, and the number of party-hours was well above average. Raptors were well represented with such uncommon species as Bald Eagle, Osprey, and Peregrine Falcon included in the count. Late migrants included a Cape May and a Palm Warbler.

There was little change in the most common species found. This year Dark-eyed Junco returned to the top spot with 325 followed by Chestnut-sided Warbler (296), Eastern Towhee (277), American Robin (176), Black-throated Green Warbler (165), Canada Warbler (148), Blue-headed Vireo (140), Veery (132), Black-throated Blue Warbler (122), and Golden-crowned Kinglet (118). Species exceeding their previous high counts this year included Ruffed Grouse (8), Gray Catbird (109), Brown Thrasher (15), Black-throated Green Warbler (165), and American Goldfinch (43), while those with lowest counts over the past ten years included Red-bellied Woodpecker (3), White-breasted Nuthatch (4), Northern Parula (13), and Rose-breasted Grosbeak (38). Two of this areas specialties, the Alder and Least Flycatcher, continue to thrive in the areas they are regularly found. The difficulty reporting chickadees for this area continues with most participants reporting those singing or having the field marks of Black-capped Chickadees being reported as Black-capped Chickadees and those singing or appearing to be Carolina Chickadees as Carolina Chickadees while some participants reported birds singing the Black-capped song as hybrids. Determining their actual identity will probably have to wait until DNA testing occurs.

Participants in this count continue to look forward to it and relish their time counting birds in this beautiful area. One participant who moved to Indiana even returns every year just to participate. I always appreciate the enthusiasm of this dynamic group of birders and am truly grateful for their participation.

Marilyn Westphal

Henderson County – count date centered around May 9th, 94 species, 1,664 individuals, 14 participants in 6 areas, 21.75 party-hours. Weather: No data.

Compiler: Jim Neal (jlbjneal@gmail.com)

Participants: Jack Drost, Jerry Griggs, Richard Jackson, Mike Judd, Michael McMann, Jim Neal, Frances Ogasawara, Nancy Pelligrini, Cherie Pittilo, Mark Simpson, Carolina Vence, Janice Walters, Penny White, and Marilyn Westphal

Exclusives: Willow Flycatcher

Notes: The 2015 Spring Migration Count for Henderson County, NC was conducted over a six-day period from May 7 thru 12, 2014 with teams selecting one day for their section. Only six of our nine areas were covered contributing to some unusually low numbers. Fourteen (14) participants found only 94 species and 1,664 individual birds. This was the lowest species count in our 18 years of collecting spring migration data. The previous low was 96 species in 2014 and the highest was in 2006 when all nine areas were covered and 120 species were found. The 1,664 total birds exceeded only last year's total of 1,612. The highest was 3,904 in 2012 there were 14 people covering all nine areas.

This year no single species exceeded 100 individuals. The Eastern Towhee and Song Sparrow tied for the most at 96 each. The Northern Cardinal at 88, and the Carolina Wren and Cedar Waxwing tied at 63, completed the top five. Chimney Swift, American Crow, and Eastern Bluebird were the only species found in all count areas.

Normally we find around 20 species of warblers and this year we found 19 thanks to participants covering the Mills River/Blue Ridge Parkway section. Last year this section was not covered resulting in only 13 total species of warbler found. The lack of coverage in three important areas for the last two count years has resulted in low numbers of species and total birds.

Nevertheless, some really good finds included Least Sandpiper, Common Nighthawk, Acadian Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Winter Wren, Swainson's and Canada Warblers, Grasshopper Sparrow and Bobolink. Overall, it was a job well done, and I want to thank all those who participated.

Jim Neal

Buncombe County – Count date centered on May 9th, 112 species, 4,904 individuals, 18 participants in 9 parties, 67.25 party-hours. Weather: No data.

Compiler: Tom Tribble (tntribble@gmail.com)

Participants: Tom Bush, Nancy Casey, Doug Johnston, Gail Lankford, Herman Lankford, Janie Owens, Diane Lombardi, Jim Poling, Kitti Reynolds, Russell Roe, Steve Semanchuk, Mark Simpson, Liz Skiles, Vin Stanton, Tom Tribble, Marilyn Westphal, Jay Wherley, and J. Whiteside

Exclusives: Cerulean Warbler

Notes: none

Black Mountains IBA – count period ran from May 21st-26th with teams selecting one of those days to complete their section, 65 species, 2,329 individuals, 15 participants in 8 parties with some teams covering a second section on a different day, 59.6 party-hours. Weather: Cool, morning temperature in upper 40's to low 50's, afternoon 60's, early morning fog some days, mostly sunny. Elevation range for this count is 3,000 to 6,684 ft. with most of the count area above 4,000 ft. This count has been conducted since 2006 with 2008 missed because of road closures.

Compiler: Marilyn Westphal (mjwestph@ret.unca.edu)

Participants: Dan Bennett, Luke Cannon, Jackson Evans, Jamie Harrelson, Chris Kelly, Charlie Lankford, Gail Lankford, Nora Murdock, Bob Repoley, Bob Segal, Debbie Segal, Steve Semanchuk, Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal and Yuri Woodstock.

Exclusives: none

Notes: Largely as a result of great participation and excellent coverage this year and some volunteers covering different sections on different days, the Black Mountains count had the highest number of species and well exceeded the highest number of total birds for this count. Many individual species also recorded their highest numbers ever. Only one species, Red-shouldered Hawk, was new for the count and actually three were found, one by Jamie Harrelson and Jackson Evans along the Buncombe Horse Range trail and two by Luke Cannon and Yuri Woodstock along the Black Mountains Crest trail. The most unusual species was an American Woodcock found by Chris Kelly and Dan Bennett on the Mountains-to-Sea trail between Balsam Gap and Mt. Mitchell. Woodcock have been found on the count in previous years, but only at dawn or dusk in open areas where they display. This bird flew up in front of Chris and Dan during the day.

Much of the area covered in this count is high elevation spruce/fir habitat and many of the most common species found are those common to that habitat. This year the top ten species were Dark-eyed Junco (302), Black-throated Green Warbler (236), Golden-crowned Kinglet (174), Canada Warbler (127), Black-throated Blue Warbler (118), Blue-headed Vireo (117), Eastern Towhee (98), Red-breasted Nuthatch (95), Veery (91), and Blackburnian Warbler (81).

Alder and Least Flycatchers arrived a little earlier this year, so were present for the count. Ruffed Grouse numbers were excellent mainly because there were hens with chicks in at least three locations. Red Crossbills had begun arriving earlier in May, so there were quite a few around by the date of the count. Canada Warbler numbers (127) were well above the average of 67, clearly a great year for this species. Hermit Thrush numbers (54) also far exceeded their average of 25, largely because more of the spruce/fir habitat was covered and because they appear to be expanding into more mixed

conifer/hardwood habitat. No late migrants were seen this year and only one Swainson's Thrush was heard on count day, although four more returned to their usual range by early June.

Many thanks once again to all the participants. Some of the trails in this count area are long and/or strenuous, so their efforts are especially appreciated.

Marilyn Westphal

Grandfather Mountain IBA - count date May 15th, 71 species, 1,197 individuals, 9 participants in 4 parties, 24.75 party-hours. Weather: Mostly cloudy, clearing in afternoon. Wind 10-15mph in morning, 0-5mph in afternoon.

Compiler: Jesse Pope (highcountrybirder@yahoo.com)

Participants: Bob Cherry, Brenda Combs, Monty Combs, Robin Diaz, Sheryl McNair, Jan Mouro, Jesse Pope, Mickey Shortt and Jeri Smart.

Exclusives: none

Notes: This year's count was very similar in effort to the past few years. We have four primary routes covering Grandfather Mountain proper from the Blue Ridge Parkway to US 221 to US 105 to Shulls Mill Rd. The count added one new species this year, Northern Waterthrush. We have them here most springs, but it was the first for the count. Overall, the weather was pretty good for the count. We had mostly cloudy skies all day, with some clearing later in the day. The winds were 10-15 mph in the morning but diminished to 0-5 mph in the afternoon. While we did have good coverage for the count this year, the total hours in the field was slightly less than last year, and much less than 2013. We finished the day with 71 species with high count of 77 set in 2012.

Overall it was another nice count for the Grandfather Spring Bird Count with one new species this year, and with an average species count and an above average individual count.

Jesse Pope

Hanging Rock State Park IBA – count date May 6th, 85 species, 1,259 individuals, 17 participants in 8 parties, 36.00 party-hours. Elevation range 1200-2400 feet. Weather: Sunny.

Compiler: Phil Dickinson (pdickins@triad.rr.com)

Participants: Mary Franklin Blackburn, Brian Bockhahn, Tommie Castleman, Jean Chamberlain, Carol Cunningham, Phil Dickinson, David Disher, Susan Disher, Kerry Eckhardt, John Haire, Mabry Hopkins, Ron Morris, Laura Phail, Meline Price, Rob Rogers, Sophie Rupp and Susan Rupp

Exclusives: none

Notes: The Hanging Rock Spring Bird Count was conducted on May 6th on a gloriously sunny day. Our group of 17 was the largest ever and enabled us to cover a record 8 different routes, including the recent park additions of Vade Mecum (the former Camp Sertoma) and the Moore Springs Campground. The

weather and our extended coverage enabled us to find 85 species, an amazing 11 species above the previous high of 74 observed in 2014. Overall, we saw or heard 1,259 birds. Among those were 23 warbler species, including 56 Hooded Warblers, 6 Kentucky Warblers, 11 Prairie Warblers and the first-ever Yellow-breasted Chats (at a Vade Mecum clear-cut). Other good finds were a Broad-winged Hawk and a late Sharp-shinned Hawk. Of course, what would a 2015 count be without a couple of Pine Siskins. Once again, Red-eyed Vireos were the most common species with a total of 133. Somewhat surprising misses were Hairy Woodpecker, Magnolia Warbler and Song Sparrow. Also, we reinstituted this count in 2011, and we still haven't seen a Veery.

Phil Dickinson

Piedmont

Iredell County – count date April 26th, 99 species, 1,750 individuals, 8 participants, 12.00 party-hours. Weather: 43-44° F, fog and showers. Count area: Circle centered on South Yadkin River Bridge - Chipley Ford Road in Northern Iredell County.

Compiler: Garnet Underwood (guwood@gmail.com)

Participants: Cynthia Dickerson, Lee Hollifield, Bill Leach, Larry Marlin, Janice Powell, Garnet Underwood, Ron Underwood and Mark Whittaker

Exclusives: none

Notes: Our day started out dismal at 43 degrees in the fog with a persistent drizzle and occasional showers. No one was prepared with proper clothing for such a miserable day. For the first couple of hours we counted by sound alone. We might have needed to pay those birds to leave their cozy nests. Participants met for a mid-day snack to compare notes and declared that it was warmer weather for the Christmas count when the temperature rose to 44 degrees. The late afternoon counters were pleased to see more feathered friends out enjoying a few rays of sunshine, which helped to round out our numbers. Noticeably absent were most of our usual raptors, but we were thrilled to see not one, but two mother Wood Ducks in the same farm pond. One had 13 babies on her back and the other had 18 babies. White-crowned Sparrows appear to be expanding into new areas as we spotted them in four different locations this year.

Garnet Underwood

Mecklenburg County – count date April 25th, 137 species, 7,061 individuals, 32 participants, 78.75 party-hours. Weather: Rainy.

Compiler: Jeff Lemons (birdsalot@gmail.com)

Participants: Larry Barden, Louise Barden, Bill Blakesley, Laura Blakesley, Kevin Burrell, Susan Ellerman, Jan Fowler, Phil Fowler, Sharon Freedman, Carl Ganser, Robert Gilson, Jim Guyton, Dave Hooten, Pat Hooten,

Ken Kneidel, Tom Ledford, Jeff Lemons, David Lovett, Carol Lovett, Martina Nordstrand, Jill Palmer, Taylor Piephoff, Lucy Quintilliano, Barry Rowan, Ian Ruppenthal, Tammy Sanders, Tom Sanders, Don Seriff, Chris Talkington, Rob Van Epps, Judy Walker and Pam Whistler.

Exclusives: none

Notes: Thirty-two very hardy birders joined in to count for the Charlotte Spring Bird Count on

Saturday, April 25th in very wet and soggy conditions. The group turned in an above average count of 137 species. The recent high for the count is 145 and the five year average is about 128 species.

Highlights included 26 species of warbler, three higher than the count average over the past five years. These included an incredible 20 Blue-winged Warblers, Worm-eating Warblers from four locations, spring Tennessee Warblers (3), one Canada Warbler, one Blackburnian Warbler, one Wilson's Warbler, Cape May Warbler from three locations, several Yellow Warblers and a couple of Hooded Warblers. Marsh Wren was re-found in the same location as the past several years. Thrushes included Veery, Swainson's, Hermit and Wood Thrush. Chuck-will's-widows were holding out on Dixie River Rd amid rapidly approaching development. The same area had a flyover Common Nighthawk. A Little Blue Heron was seen in flight not far from the river and Yellow-crowned Night Herons were on nest in traditional locations. The local Peregrine Falcons were seen downtown for the second year. Horned Lark, Grassphopper Sparrow, American Pipit and Eastern Meadowlark were all reported in low numbers. Most of the waterfowl from the winter had left with only Blue-winged Teal (11) and American Black Duck of note.

All checklists from the count were submitted to eBird by the Count Leaders. Thank You.

Thanks again to all those that stuck it out all day in the rain. We had a lot of water on count day and all the groups put in a great effort to cover their areas. We couldn't have this count without you.

Jeff Lemons

Forsyth County – count date May 2nd, 134 species, 4,956 individuals, 48 participants in 13 parties, 98.00 party-hours. Weather: 45-73 degrees F; average wind speed 6 mph; partly cloudy.

Compiler: Ron Morris (ronmorris@triad.rr.com)

Participants: Ga Baliga, Mary Franklin Blackburn, Phil Bost, Tommie Castleman, Howard Coston, Phil Crisp, Carol Cunningham, Doug Demerest, Phil Dickinson, David Disher, Susan Disher, Cynthia Donaldson, Kerry Eckhardt, Allison Gagnon, Nathan Gatto, Brent Gearhart, Bill Gifford, Lucy Gifford, John Haire, Bill Hammond, John Hammond, Susan Hammond, Marbry Hopkins, Royce Hough, Bill Jackson, Vicki Jackson, Don Kautz, Hunter Linde, Don Lindle, Craig McCleary, Tom McKay, Ana Clara Melo,

Heather Moir, Ron Morris, Ann Newsome, Laura Phail, Paul Powers, Jeremy Reiskind, Rob Rodgers, Shelley Rutkin, Gene Schepker, Lois Schneider, Danny Stinehelfer, Ann Stupka, Bill Sugg, Chuck Thompson, Cindy Thompson and Gray Tuttle.

Exclusives: Olive-sided Flycatcher, Golden-winged Warbler, Nashville Warbler

Notes: Highlights: (Records are for 1992 – 2015). The most unusual sighting was a Horned Grebe on the Yadkin River, the first for this spring bird count, and an Olive-sided Flycatcher for the second year in a row. Significantly higher than average numbers included the most Red-shouldered Hawks (21) in 24 years, and 30 Pine Siskins. We also had good numbers of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers (99), second only to last year's record of 104. Much lower than average numbers were 58 Mallards, the fewest since 1995, and 12 House Sparrows, the lowest number in 24 years and what appears to be a steady decline of this species. Warblers were about normal with 25 species including Blue-winged and Golden-winged. Count week species were Great Egret, Hooded Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Great Horned Owl, Semipalmated Plover, American Kestrel, and Yellow-throated Vireo.

Ron Morris

Rockingham County – count date May 7th, 106 species, 2,107 individuals, 5 participants in 5 parties, 38.25 party-hours. Weather: Mostly clear skies, light winds, temperatures 58-83°F.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn (birdranger248@gmail.com)

Participants: Penny Barham, Brian Bockhahn, Becky Loyocano, Martin Wall and Matt Wangerin.

Exclusives: none

Notes: The Third Rockingham County Spring Bird Count was held May 7, 2015 with mostly clear skies, light winds, and temperatures ranging from 58 to 83 degrees. Five observers in five parties tallied 106 species (average 111) and 2,107 birds (average 1,958). Mild weather caused most migrants to move out of the area before the count.

First count records include Peregrine Falcon with a stream of migrating hawks and Osprey over Mayo River, Least Sandpiper at a farm pond, Red-headed Woodpecker, Bank Swallow photographed on a wire near US 220/770, Northern Waterthrush singing along May River and Rusty Blackbird along Janet Road.

Four count week birds were missed on count day including White-breasted Nuthatch, Black-and-white Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, and Black-throated Green Warbler. Missed species include Wood Duck, House Wren, Yellow-throated, Prothonotary and Worm-eating Warbler, and Swamp Sparrow. Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count!

Brian Bockhahn

Greensboro – count date May 5th, 124 species, 6,823 individuals, 31 participants, 105.00 party-hours. Weather: High temperature 73°F, low 49°F. Sunny, winds variable, light with occasional gusts, highest gust 29mph.

Compiler: Elizabeth Link (elzlink@yahoo.com)

Participants: Nancy Adamson, Carolyn Allen, Don Allen, David Bailey, Frank Cashwell, Sue Cole, Mike Conway, Scott DePue, Judi Durr, Jim Eldrett, Amy Hanson, Craig Lawrence, Jane Lawrence, Elizabeth Link, Henry Link, Clarence Mattocks, Scott Mortenson, Jean Murdick, Lane Oldham, Diedre Poe, Ann Presnell, Danny Royster, Wallace Sills, Jim Strickland, Ann Stieghner, Emily Talbert, Emily Tyler, Marty Wall, Ann Walter-Fromson, Melissa Whitmire, and Peggy Young.

Exclusives: Greater White-fronted Goose

Notes: The weather for the Greensboro count was very pleasant, but the weather to the southeast of Greensboro was not so nice, as Tropical Storm Ana hovered off the southern NC coast, with northeast winds that almost shut down migration into the central Piedmont during the count period. The effect on our count was seen in lower-than-usual numbers of warblers. Some species that are usually found on the count did not show up until late in the count week, or in the case of Chestnut-sided Warbler, not at all.

The total species number of 124 was right at our average, with seven additional count week species. The number of individual birds was also close to our average. Notables included a Greater White-fronted Goose, a first for our count. Red-breasted Merganser, Bonaparte's Gull, and a Wilson's Warbler were other species found that frequently don't turn up for the count. Winter birds lingering later than usual included Pine Siskins, Purple Finches, and a Ruddy Duck. A Hooded Merganser that has nested on a retention pond behind a shopping center for the last several years returned to the spot again, and appeared on count day with a brood of 13 chicks.

The thirty-one birders that participated in our count was lower than our usual average, as were the number of party-hours, which usually averages about 135.

Elizabeth Link

Southern Pines – count date April 26th, 133 species, 6,564 individuals, 29 participants in 12 parties, 71.00 party-hours.

Compiler: Susan Campbell (susan@ncaves.com)

Participants: Jennifer Archambault, Rex Badgett, Jeff Beane, Carol Bowman, Kerry Brust, Susan Campbell, J.H. Carter III, Bob Ganis, Tina Ganis, Gabriella Garrison, Scott Hartley, Stephanie Horton, Tom Howard, Alicia Jackson, Marjorie Ludwig, Jeff Marcus, David McCloy, Carolyn McDermott, Bill Mullin, Dan Pieroni, Alan Schultz, Bruce Sorrie, Lowell Strine, Susan Strine, Rick Studenmund, Leslie Watschke, John Watschke, David Williamson, and Nancy Williamson

Exclusives: Gadwall, Lesser Scaup, Bachman's Sparrow, Lark Sparrow

Notes: This spring's count had the benefit of a large number of participants (29) as well as great weather and a very respectable total was of 133 species. Bird numbers were good with wintering species as well as migrants being well represented. We had our best showing of swallow species in many years. Our only rarity was a Bonaparte's Gull, very unexpected anywhere in the Sandhills at this time of year.

Susan Campbell

Chapel Hill – count date May 9th, 116 species, 8,158 individuals, 41 field observers and 4 feeder counters, 145.50 party-hours. Weather: Low 65°F, high 85°F; wind NE 10-15 mph; mostly cloudy, no rain.

Compiler: Will Cook (cwcook@duke.edu)

Participants: David Anderson, Gail Boyarski, Norm Budnitz, Chuck Byrd, Jim Capel, Mary Cavenar, Bob Chase, Will Cook, Tom Driscoll, Kent Fiala, Cynthia Fox, John Frederick, Jill Froning, Jim George, Mary George, Caroline Gilmore, Steven Graves, Beth Gregory, Perry Haaland, Bobbie Hahn, Dietrich Kessler, Geraldine King, Pauline King, Gene Kingsley, Ken Lundstrom, April McGinnis, David Murdock, Jane Oliver, Candace Owens, Jill Paul, Kim Peacock, Peter Perlman, Thomas Richey, Mike Schultz, David Smith, Judy Smith, Darryl Spancake, Paul Taillie, Edith Tatum, Shelley Theye, Pam Timmons, Ginger Travis, Tsutomu (Tom) Watanabe, Scott Winton and Bruce Young.

Exclusives: None

Notes: The totals for the Chapel Hill spring count on Saturday, May 9, 2015 were almost an exact match of last year's totals - with 116 species (same as last year) and 8,158 individuals (8,157 last year). This species total was quite low, seven below the 10-year average of 123 species and tied for the lowest species count since 1974. The number of individual birds counted was also a little low (average 9,189). It was a very slow day for migrants and the strong winds didn't help matters. We had a great amount of effort on the count, with 145.5 party-hours (average 131.2), but the birds just weren't very active, so we had just 56.1 birds per party hour (average 69.7), the lowest since 1996.

Without a doubt Mississippi Kite was the bird of the count this year, with one found by David and Judy Smith while they were checking a Bald Eagle nest at the Big Woods Road swamp and another by Ginger Travis 3.5 miles away, while she was exploring the Morgan Creek arm of Jordan Lake by canoe. These are the first reports in the 59-year history of the Chapel Hill count. Ginger also got the second-best birds of the count, hearing a total of five King Rails in three different locations in the Cub Creek and Morgan Creek arms of Jordan Lake. Two fly-by Blue-winged Teal at Mason Farm (Will Cook) were a first for that area. Other goodies on the count included Hooded Merganser, Pied-billed Grebe, Chuck-will's-widow, Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-

winged Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and some lingering Pine Siskins.

We had one record high this year and one tie: five King Rails (tied last year) and 81 Fish Crows (75 in 2006). Also in unusually high numbers: Osprey (2nd highest), Bald Eagle, Acadian Flycatcher (2nd), Great Crested Flycatcher (2nd), and Summer Tanager (2nd).

There were no big misses but quite a few species were remarkably scarce: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Northern Flicker (lowest since 1974), Eastern Phoebe (lowest since 1974), Purple Martin, Swainson's Thrush, Cedar Waxwing (lowest since 1973), Black-and-white Warbler (lowest since 1971), American Redstart (15 is the lowest since 1957, average 48), Black-throated Blue Warbler (lowest since 2000), and Yellow-breasted Chat (lowest since 1971). Team honors: Will Cook's team, covering Mason Farm and the southwest Durham sewage plant, recorded 84 species and 883 individual birds, the highest for both. Thanks to the 41 counters for your help!

Charles W. "Will" Cook

Jordan Lake – count date May 3rd, 126 species, 8,590 individuals, 44 participants in 21 parties, 129.95 party-hours. Weather: It was a beautiful day, with temperatures ranging from 45°F in the morning to 72°F in the afternoon. Winds were calm to light and variable under clear skies and no precipitation. Compiler: Norm Budnitz (nbudnitz@gmail.com)

Participants: Patsy Bailey, Barabara Beaman, Eliazbeth Bishop, Todd Bishop, Vern Bothwell, Stephen Buczynski, Norm Budnitz, Chris Canfield, Carl Chelette, Carol Chelette, Shi Chen, Barbara Coffman, Patrick Coin, Will Cook, Deborah Copeland, Tom Driscoll, Kate Finlayson, Perry Haaland, Russell Herman, Loren Hintz, Bo Howes, Helen Kalevas, Gene Kingsley, Terry Korab, Tom Krakauer, Kerry MacPherson, Trish MacPherson, Jennifer Maher, Beth Mancuso, Frank McKeever, Kyle Mills, Micky Mills, Judy Murray, Jill Paul, Rick Payne, Robert Rybczynski, Beverly Scalise, Pam Timmons, Ginger Travis, Andy Upshaw, Margaret Vimmerstedt, Rosalyn Walk, Rouse Wilson and Joe Zellers.

Exclusives: Virginia Rail, White-rumped Sandpiper

Notes: May 3, 2015 was a beautiful day with temperatures ranging from 45°F in the morning to 72°F in the afternoon. Winds were calm to light and variable under clear skies and there was no precipitation.

Forty-four observers (just under our 10-year average of 45) in 20 parties participated. We counted 8,590 individual birds (avg. 7,967) and 126 species (avg. 124) in 130 party hours (avg. 126).

Each year observers find a few unusual species that are worthy of special mention because they are rarely reported on our spring count. That's true this year as well (species marked with an asterisk [*] in the table). But we also often have species that are only reported by one party, and I thought it might be of interest to all.

On the other hand, there are some species that are reported by *every* party in the field: Red-bellied Woodpecker, Great-crested Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, and Northern Cardinal. This list might have been a bit longer, but we had two parties counting from kayak or canoe. Their narrow view of the world in some cases limited their species counts. Those parties did, however, find species nobody else reported including King Rail and Worm-eating Warbler.

SPECIES	SINGLE PARTY REPORTING
Blue-winged Teal*	Tom Krakauer, Shi Chen
Red-breasted Merganser	Rick Payne, Kerry & Trish MacPherson
Northern Harrier*	Will Cook
Cooper's Hawk	Barbara Beaman, Russell Herman
Broad-winged Hawk	Vern Bothwell, Norm Budnitz
King Rail*	Deborah Copeland, Ginger Travis
Virginia Rail*	Rick Payne, Kerry & Trish MacPherson
White-rumped Sandpiper*	Chris Canfield, Kate Finlayson
Rock Pigeon (!)	Will Cook
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (!)	Elizabeth and Todd Bishop
Eastern Whip-poor-will	Andy Upshaw, Rouse Wilson, Joe Zellers
American Kestrel*	Steve Buczynski, Bo Howes
Loggerhead Shrike*	Carl & Carol Chelette
Bank Swallow	Tom Krakauer, Shi Chen
Worm-eating Warbler	Perry Haaland, Pam Timmons
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Carl & Carol Chelette
White-crowned Sparrow*	Chris Canfield, Kate Finlayson

Some of the record highs for this year included Eastern Wood-Pewee, 80 (previous high was 79 in 2012); Fish Crow, 64 (58 in 2011); Gray Catbird, 126 (84 in 1980); Black-and-white Warbler, 68 (60 in 2004); and Pine Siskin, 33 (32 in 2013).

Will Cook tallied 83 species by himself this year (without finding either a Wood Thrush or a Scarlet Tanager!), while Vern Bothwell and Norm Budnitz found 78 species.

If you would like to see a spreadsheet of this count and a cumulative spreadsheet of all our counts, please visit the Bird Counts page on the New Hope Audubon website at: http://www.newhopeaudubon.org/birdCounts.html.

Norm Budnitz

Durham – count date April 26th, 129 species, 5,646 individuals, 20 participants in 10 parties, 68.45 party-hours. Weather: Overcast with periods

of rain. Termperature 49° to 52°F.

Compiler: Mike Schultz (ross.gull@frontier.com)

Participants: Patsy Bailey, Brian Bockhahn, Vern Bothwell, Norm Budnitz, Lee Chen, Will Cook, Rebecca Costello, Tracy Feldman, Kent Fiala, Helen Kalevas, Gene Kingsley, Mark Kosiewski, Peter Larsen, Irene Liu, John McVay, Brian Murphy, Jill Paul, Carl Rothfels, Michael Schultz and Scott Winton

Exclusives: American Bittern, Merlin

Notes: The cool temperatures prompted several observers to note that it felt more like a Christmas Bird Count than a spring count! However, birding was excellent with the weather holding back many migrants. We had four species of *Catharus* thrush and 23 species of warbler (or 24 if you count Chat) including record highs for Black-and-white and Northern Waterthrush, and our first ever Orange-crowned Warbler!

Michael Schultz

Wake County – count date May 9th, 106 species, 3,504 individuals, 23 participants in 10 parties, 46.75 party-hours. Weather: 66-82° F, winds calm at 5-10 mph, partly cloudy 50% cloud cover.

Compiler: John Connors (jconnorsbird@gmail.com)

Participants: Elizabeth Andrews, Julie Angerman, Joe Bearden, Karen Bearden, Erla Beegle, John Connors, John Finnegan, Lena Gallitano, Ernest Hahn, Mary Hahn, Dan Harvey, Sue Harvey, Lily Ivanov, Mark Johns, Ann Lattimer, Chris Moorman, Ben Nickley, Kayla Nickley,Will Nickley, Alex Nickley, Mike Pollard, Jeri Smart and Clyde Smith.

Exclusives: Common Gallinule

Notes: Nice weather throughout the day, but a sub-tropical front that had stalled off the South Carolina coast for three days very likely kept a lid on bird movements through the lower Piedmont. Temperatures ranged from 66-82° F with calm winds and partly cloudy skies. Due to difficulties in recruiting observers Falls Lake, Walnut Creek, Theys Farm, Greenview and Lake Raleigh were not covered in this year's count.

Some interesting observations include: Very late American Wigeon (1) at Lake Benson; most surprising was a Common Gallinule (1) at Schenck Forest; Broad-winged Hawk (1) suggests they still breed at Umstead State Park; Loggerhead Shrike (3) numbers rebounded this year; Tree Swallow (3) were found at several lakes, and Cliff Swallow (52) continue to expand; 17 species of warbler were found but numbers for all passage migrants were low: Magnolia Warbler (1), Black-throated Blue (6), Black-and-white (3), American Redstart (4), and some normally observed species were altogether absent (Northern Waterthrush, Blackpoll). Yellow-breasted Chat (3) were found at several sites. Mid-Pine wheat fields had been harvested and neither Bobolink nor Grasshopper Sparrow were found there; however, small numbers

of each (5 and 1 respectively) were found along Reedy Creek Road. Savannah Sparrow (4), White-throated Sparrow (3) and a large flock of Pine Siskin (58) were found lingering in the count circle.

Significant misses include: Great Egret, Northern Bobwhite, nightjars, Kentucky Warbler and Field Sparrow.

- Great Blue Heron colony is easily visible at Shelley Lake.
- Purple Martin colony at University Club is near capacity;

and Prairie Ridge colony has expanded dramatically.

- Meadow habitat at Prairie Ridge and Anderson Point

are well established but Field Sparrow inexplicably absen from both sites after breeding there the last few years. Yellow-breasted Chat continue to breed at PR and at Schenck Forest seed tree cut.

John Connors

Falls Lake – count date April 23rd, 114 species, 3,461 individuals, 16 participants in 7 parties, 68.20 party-hours. Weather: Clear skies, high winds, temperature 53-75°F.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn (birdranger248@gmail.com)

Participants: Herb Amyx, Pat Amyx, Brian Bockhahn, Amy Corbally, Ed Corey, Jennifer Fenwick, Lena Gallitano, Steve Halsted, Jerry Luginbuhl, Elliott McDowell, Kassie Moore, Deborah Robertson, William Ruark, Jeri Smart, Deck Stapleton and Patty Tice.

Exclusives: none

Notes: The 12th Falls Lake Spring Bird Count was held on April 23, 2015 under clear skies, increasing heavy winds and temperatures ranging from 53-75°F. Sixteen observers tallied 114 species (average 112) and 3,461 total birds (average 3,976).

Most numerous birds were 310 Ring-billed Gulls followed by 180 Pine Siskins and 146 Cliff Swallows.

First records include a flock of 17 Ring-necked Ducks at lakes center, a lone Greater Yellowlegs at Beaverdam Lake spillway (had this on CBC, but not SBC!), a single Forster's Tern at lakes center, and a single Gray-cheeked Thrush at Rollingview.

Other goodies include our second Dark-eyed Junco (a pair at Rollingview), our third American Black Duck as a lone fly-by at Sandling Beach, our fourth record Bank Swallow at Highway 50 boat ramp and our fifth Pine Siskins reported by five different parties.

Misses include Wild Turkey for the first time (ouch!), Common Loon for the fifth time, Cooper's and Broad-winged Hawks for the fifth time, Solitary Sandpiper for the second time, Eastern Wood-Pewee for the third time, Cedar Waxwing for the fourth time, and Yellow-breasted Chat for the second time (I blame strong winds). Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count.

Brian Bockhahn

Kerr Lake – count date May 1st, 127 species, 4,485 individuals, 13 participants in 7 parties, 70.300 party-hours. Weather: Cloudy skies with periods of rain mid-day, light winds with temperature 48-78°F.

Compiler: Brian Bockhahn (birdranger248@gmail.com)

Participants: Jeff Blalock, Brian Bockhahn, Ann Brice, Adam D'Onofrio, Paul Glass, Fred Lobdell, Carol Mauzey, Grace McCrowell, William Ruark, Clyde Smith, Evan Spears, Deck Stapleton and Clyde Wilson.

Exclusives: Red-necked Grebe

Notes: The 12th Kerr Lake Spring Bird Count was held on May 1, 2015 under cloudy skies with periods of rain mid-day, light winds and temperatures 48-78°F. Thirteen observers tallied an amazing 127 species, our second highest total (average 119). We also tallied our second highest total birds at 4,485 individuals (average 3,904).

The most numerous birds of the count really surprised me and I had to double check all the count forms, but we tallied 303 Yellow-rumped Warblers! That is 9.5 times the number seen on the Christmas Bird Count (32). Next highest were 240 American Crows, 229 Ring-billed Gulls, and 216 Common Grackles.

New to the Spring Count checklist include the always elusive Orange-crowned Warbler, found at Henderson Point for the first spring count record. We've actually never had one on a Christmas Count either.

Second records include three Bank Swallows perched on a wire, along with the other four swallow species, below the dam for great comparison photos, and two more were seen off North Bend Park. Also one Gray-cheeked Thrush was with a fallout of warblers and Veery at North Bend Park, as well as one Cape May Warbler found at Bullocksville, a great find. They have been showing up in good numbers this season.

Third Records include three Blue-winged Teal at Dick Cross and a breeding plumaged Hooded Merganser below the dam.

Fourth Records include breeding plumaged Horned Grebes from North Bend and Henderson Point, two separate Red-necked Grebes, one in breeding plumage above the dam, and one Least Sandpiper in area six. Five American Coots were also found at Dick Cross and two parties reported Veery.

There were no misses off the A-list, but shameless misses include Northern Bobwhite for the fourth time, Cedar Waxwing for the fifth time, Blackpoll Warbler for the seventh time, Worm-eating Warbler for the sixth time, and White-crowned Sparrow for the fifth time.

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to count!

Brian Bockhahn

Raven Rock State Park – count date April 26th, 129 species, 5,122 individuals, 17 participants in 12 parties regular, 2 participants in 2 parties owling, 82.00 party-hours. Weather: Temperature - 50-80° F; Wind southwest

at 0-10 mph.; Water open. A.M. mostly cloudy; P.M. mostly sunny. Count circle center at junction of NC210 and SR 1434.

Compiler: Erik R. Thomas (erthomas@ncsu.edu)

Participants: John Bartlett, David Brown, Stephen Buczynski, Jeffrey Davidson, Robin Dodsworth, David DuMond, Tom Howard, Paul Hubert, Frank Little, Susan Little, Prudence Mainor, Tim McGreal, Jeff Mielke, Mitch Reese, Megan Rumbley, Erik Thomas and Amber Williams.

Exclusives: Anhinga

Notes: Our total of 129 species set a new record, breaking our old record of 127 set last year. Unusual finds included Pied-billed Grebe by John Bartlett, Brown Creeper by Jeff Davidson, Swainson's Warbler by Paul Hubert, and Pectoral Sandpiper and American Pipit by Amber Williams and Prudence Mainor. Key misses were Bobolink and Grasshopper Sparrow.

Erik R. Thomas

Coast

Onslow County – count date May 1st, 165 species, 12,594 individuals, 17 participants in 7 parties, 64.50 party-hours. Weather: Mostly cloudy, winds NNW at 10mph with gusts to 23mph. Light rain in the morning with passing showers in the afternoon. Average humidity 83% and high temperature 66°F.

Compiler: Andy Webb (andywebb2008@live.com)

Participants: Dick Barmore, Rich Boyd, Susan Boyd, Jim Craig, John DeLuca, Wade Fuller, John Fussell, Al Gamache, Gil Grant, Guy McGrane, Jim O'Donnell, Laura O'Donnell, Steve Shaffer, Tim Trott, Andy Webb, Donna Webb, and Elizabeth White.

Exclusives: Black Scoter, Red-throated Loon, Eared Grebe, Northern Gannet, Great Cormorant, Brown Pelican, Least Bittern, Snowy Egret, Tricolored Heron, Cattle Egret, White Ibis, Glossy Ibis, Clapper Rail, Black-bellied Plover, Wilson's Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Piping Plover, American Oystercatcher, Black-necked Stilt, Willet, Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, Laughing Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Least Tern, Gull-billed Tern, Common Tern, Royal Tern, Sandwich Tern, Black Skimmer, Parasitic Jaeger, Sedge Wren, Nelson's Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, Painted Bunting, Boat-tailed Grackle.

Notes: The 20th annual Onslow County Spring Migration count was held Friday May 1, 2015.

There were 17 observers in seven parties who tallied a record 12,594 individual birds (10 year avg. 8,235), and 165 species a tie for our second highest count (10 year avg. 157), during 64.5 party hours in the field and 3 feeder count hours. There were two species located that were a first for this count.

Jim and Laura O'Donnell still had 13 Pine Siskins at their feeders. Two days later they had all departed the area. John Deluca had one Veery aboard Camp Lejeune which is not new to Onslow County, but a new bird for the count. Other good finds included a Loggerhead Shrike located by John Fussell, two Black-throated Green Warblers found by John Deluca, and pictures of three Eared Grebes in breading plumage found by Jim & Laura O'Donnell and Guy McGrane.

The most abundant species on the count was Laughing Gull (2,493) which is not uncommon. There was a large congregation of Terns along the coast with: (252) Royal, (237) Sandwich, (1,571) Common, and (936) Forester. Another notable high count were (300) Black Scoter.

Some notable misses were Cliff Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch for the second year in a row, Cedar Waxwing, and Bachman's Sparrow.

All in all it was a good day to be birding with a great team of birders. The temperatures were mild with a high temp of 66 degrees for the day. It was mostly cloudy with winds out of the North or Northwest at about 10 miles per hour with isolated gusts of 23 miles per hour. There was some light rain in the morning and passing showers in the afternoon, with the average humidity of 83 percent.

Thanks for counting.

Andy Webb

Table 1. 2015 Spring Counts in North Carolina

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast
	5/1	5/20	5/11	5/10	5/25	5/16	5/7	4/27	4/26	5/3	5/8	5/3	4/27	5/10	5/4	4/27	5/10	4/22	4/24	4/26	4/25		per party-hour		
Greater White-fronted Goose												1										1		0	
Canada Goose	128		59	83		7	7	31	280	187	69	399	127	149	109	81	157	47	75	120	117	2232	0.79	1.81	1.81
Mute Swan													6				5					11		0.01	
Wood Duck				8				25	1	24		10	7	31	29	34	9	9	6	35	5	233	0.02	0.22	0.08
Gadwall													5									5		0	
American Wigeon																	1				1	2		0	0.02
American Black Duck									1									1			4	6		0	0.06
Mallard	20		38	56		18		6	115	58	13	106	46	52	53	13	83	25	9	38	20	769	0.37	0.61	0.31
Blue-winged Teal	1		4					5	11	2		4	2	2	1				3		6	41	0.01	0.03	0.09
Ring-necked Duck										2		1						17				20		0.02	
scaup sp.	1																					1	0		
Lesser Scaup													5									5		0	
Black Scoter																					300	300			4.65
Hooded Merganser	1									cw		14		2					1			18		0.02	
Red-breasted Merganser										cw		1			2			5	10		38	56		0.02	0.59
Ruddy Duck								1		1		2	11								172	187		0.01	2.67
Northern Bobwhite				2						1	4		3			1				4	3	18	0.01	0.01	0.05
Ruffed Grouse	1	8		3	15	1																28	0.08		
Wild Turkey	2	6	5	31	4	4	16	5		6	20	25	7		12	17			14	16	14	204	0.19	0.12	0.22
Red-throated Loon																					1	1			0.02

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast
Common Loon	1												13			2			21		29	66	0	0.04	0.45
Pied-billed Grebe								1		1		2	3	1		2			4	1	1	16		0.01	0.02
Horned Grebe										1			1						3			5		0	
Red-necked Grebe																			2			2		0	
Eared Grebe																					3	3			0.05
Northern Gannet																					13	13			0.2
Double Crested Cormorant	15			3					40	42	1	108	27	89	432	595	23	100	215	9	491	2190	0.05	1.66	7.61
Great Cormorant																					1	1			0.02
Anhinga																				6		6		0.01	0
Brown Pelican																					202	202			3.13
American Bittern																3						3		0	0
Least Bittern																					2	2			0.03
Great Blue Heron	37		4	2				3	39	17	7	99	18	104	122	65	34	43	35	19	10	658	0.12	0.6	0.16
Great Egret			1							cw					2	2					6	11	0	0	0.09
Snowy Egret																					13	13			0.2
Little Blue Heron									1												2	3		0	0.03
Tricolored Heron																					1	1			0.02
Cattle Egret																					2	2			0.03
Green Heron	1		4	6				2	15	13	4	11	3	7	9	8	2	1	2	7	21	116	0.03	0.08	0.33
Yellow-crowned Nt Heron									3	2		3		1								9		0.01	
White Ibis																					89	89			1.38
Glossy Ibis																					8	8			0.12
Black Vulture	3		6	2			6	17	35	28	28	18	17	49	63	26	15	13	73	8	14	421	0.05	0.38	0.22
Turkey Vulture	18	17	9	42	18		32	18	8	48	49	61	62	115	164	29	33	50	66	90	178	1107	0.38	0.78	2.76
Osprey	1	1						1	15	4	3	13	7	21	45	20	2	26	22	2	9	192	0.01	0.18	0.14

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast	
Mississippi Kite				1										2								3	0	0		
Bald Eagle		1							2			3	4	29	41	10	2	17	13	4	2	128	0	0.12	0.03	
Northern Harrier												1	1		1							3		0	0	
Sharp-shinned Hawk							1		1	2			1	1		1		2	2	4		15	0	0.01	0	
Cooper's Hawk		1		1			1	1	4	9	1	6	2	2	1		5		3	1	1	39	0.01	0.03	0.02	
accipiter sp.				2								1	1	1	1					1		7	0.01	0	0	
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	3	1	4	3		3	5	12	21	24	25	10	42	20	11	19	5	3	21	6	242	0.05	0.21	0.09	
Broad-winged Hawk	2	8		2	4	3	1		1	2	7	2		cw	1		1			2	1	37	0.06	0.02	0.02	
Red-tailed Hawk	6	3	2	17	1		2	4	20	17	4	17	7	14	34	8	9	6	4	11	5	191	0.09	0.15	0.08	
Buteo sp.		1																				1	0			
Clapper Rail																					24	24			0.37	
King Rail														5	2							7		0.01		
Virginia Rail															1							1		0		
Sora													4								3	7		0	0.05	
Common Gallinule																	1					1		0		
American Coot								5	4	1			1			2			5		37	55		0.02	0.57	
Black-bellied Plover																					12	12			0.19	
Wilson's Plover																					8	8			0.12	
Semipalmated Plover										cw											42	42			0.65	
Piping Plover																					3	3			0.05	
Killdeer			11	5			1	16	25	26	7	13	29	22	14	7	14	13	13	51	49	316	0.05	0.25	0.76	
American Oystercatcher																					7	7			0.11	
Black-necked Stilt																					25	25			0.39	
Spotted Sandpiper			1	7					20	25	2	18	29	6	38	15	1	19	30	25	39	275	0.02	0.22	0.6	
Solitary Sandpiper	1		2	1				12	33	24	3	32	13	4	17	9	6		1	15	3	176	0.01	0.17	0.05	

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast	
Greater Yellowlegs			1						1	7		1	2					1		2	24	39	0	0.01	0.37	
Willet																					72	72			1.12	
Lesser Yellowlegs								8	1	4			8			1				13	71	106		0.03	1.1	
Whimbrel																					17	17			0.26	
Ruddy Turnstone																					8	8			0.12	
Sanderling																					247	247			3.83	
Semipalmated Sandpiper																					5	5			0.08	
Least Sandpiper			15						7	1	2			16			14		1	11	122	189	0.04	0.05	1.89	
White-rumped Sandpiper															1							1			0	
Pectoral Sandpiper																				2	2	4			0	0.03
Dunlin																					150	150			2.33	
Short-billed Dowitcher																					15	15			0.23	
Wilson's Snipe																1				2	1	4			0	0.02
American Woodcock		2			1				2	4	2									1		12	0.01	0.01		
Bonaparte's Gull												1	1					8	5		22	37		0.01	0.34	
Laughing Gull																					2493	2493			38.65	
Ring-billed Gull								1	37			102	10		560	167		311	229		308	1725		1.4	4.78	
Herring Gull												cw				1		3			86	90		0	1.33	
Lesser Black-backed Gull																					1	1			0.02	
Great Black-backed Gull																					3	3			0.05	
Least Tern																					55	55			0.85	
Gull-billed Tern																					3	3			0.05	
Caspian Tern												cw			3	2		10	6			21		0.02		
Common Tern																					1571	1571			24.36	

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast
Forster's Tern																1		1			936	938			14.51
Royal Tern																					252	252			3.91
Sandwich Tern																					237	237			3.67
Black Skimmer																					60	60			0.93
tern sp.														cw											
Parasitic Jaeger																					2	2			0.03
Rock Pigeon			1	20				1	77	23	24	107	14	21	13	8	56	14	5	10	56	450	0.06	0.37	0.87
Eurasian Collared Dove								4												5	1	10		0.01	0.02
Mourning Dove	78	7	29	133	4	13	39	122	107	90	74	160	265	226	164	52	92	40	173	124	181	2173	0.84	1.67	2.81
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		1		4			2	1	7	1	2	cw		4	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	30	0.02	0.02	0.03
Black-billed Cuckoo	1																					1	0		
Eastern Screech Owl											2		2				1	2	2	1	8	18		0.01	0.12
Great-horned Owl				1					5	cw	1			4	2	1		2	1	1		18	0	0.02	
Barred Owl		2		4	1		3	6	16	1	3	12	3	23	2	14	1	8	13	10	4	126	0.03	0.11	0.06
Northern Saw-whet Owl		1																				1	0		
Common Nighthawk			2						1	1												4	0.01	0	
Chuck-wills-widow									3	2	3		21	1	7			4	11	12	6	70		0.06	0.09
Whip-poor-will	4									2	9		10	9	1			6	10	3	2	56	0.01	0.05	0.03
Chimney Swift	28	41	27	82	29	14	24	5	161	191	49	226	140	86	49	62	68	26	16	89	11	1424	0.68	1.15	0.17
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	22	7	4	17	11	1	5	10	8	14	5	8	11	41	19	9	15	8	3	16	1	235	0.19	0.16	0.02
Belted Kingfisher	3		1	3	1			3	12	8	1	8	9	8	8	8	4	8	3	8		96	0.02	0.09	
Red-headed Woodpecker								1	8		1	5	19	15	55	4	8	7	7	7	10	147		0.14	0.16
Red-bellied Woodpecker	21	3	9	42	1	1	14	16	85	65	32	93	87	177	124	60	65	28	33	69	36	1061	0.25	0.92	0.56

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		5		2					1													8	0.02	0	
Downy Woodpecker	22	11	10	10	8	1	9	7	48	23	9	35	13	82	26	14	31	10	12	14	2	397	0.2	0.32	0.03
Hairy Woodpecker	2	15	5	10	12	7		1	5	3	1	4	3	12	6	6	2	5	3	4	3	109	0.14	0.05	0.05
Rd-cockaded Woodpecker													10								2	12		0.01	0.03
Northern (Y-s) Flicker	4	2		12		1	1	1	7	17	3	14	10	9	16	4	5	5	4	8	6	129	0.06	0.1	0.09
Pileated Woodpecker	31	9	3	19	9	3	12	2	2	4	3	3	23	26	19	4	5	6	19	18	13	233	0.24	0.13	0.2
woodpecker sp.																				1		1		0	
American Kestrel	1									cw		2	4		1	2	3			4		17	0	0.02	
Merlin																1						1		0	
Peregrine Falcon		1							1		1											3	0	0	
Olive-sided Flycatcher										1												1		0	
Eastern Wood Pewee		14	3	22	14	4	4	1	1	6	5	5	9	43	80		9		1	11	23	255	0.17	0.17	0.36
Acadian Flycatcher	1	1	20	9	15		23		2	2	15		3	80	27	3	19	3	7	2	6	238	0.19	0.16	0.09
Alder Flycatcher		26			2																	28	0.08		
Willow Flycatcher			4																			4	0.01		
Least Flycatcher		20			1																	21	0.06		
Eastern Phoebe	33	4	10	41	7	3	13	8	80	21	12	12	10	19	25	12	9	10	3	24	1	357	0.31	0.24	0.02
Great Crested Flycatcher		1		2			10	3	46	22	12	48	102	108	117	25	64	33	50	81	121	845	0.04	0.7	1.88
Eastern Kingbird				11			2	9	45	37	7	31	79	24	65	10	18	18	31	58	57	502	0.04	0.43	0.88
Loggerhead Shrike													7		1		3			8	1	20		0.02	0.02
White-eyed Vireo	6		7				7	5	18	18	14	15	57	35	54	63	15	22	33	72	36	477	0.06	0.42	0.56
Yellow-throated Vireo				7			20		1	cw	13	2	15	10	16	12		6	10	8	9	129	0.07	0.09	0.14
Blue-headed Vireo	52	140	5	82	117	37	6		4	3	1	1	8	4		2		5	1	1		469	1.22	0.03	
Warbling Vireo				4						1												5	0.01	0	

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast
Red-eyed Vireo	62	57	27	187	45	27	133	6	82	77	74	85	61	163	248	179	80	89	110	95	17	1904	1.49	1.33	0.26
Blue Jay	112	31	33	73	15	27	11	23	84	74	41	107	112	144	124	45	48	32	82	129	68	1415	0.84	1.03	1.05
American Crow	136	51	60	193	31	38	36	194	125	153	68	271	334	298	319	118	62	99	240	221	115	3162	1.51	2.47	1.78
Fish Crow								3	50	27	2	19	43	81	64	50	26	39	21	13	36	474		0.43	0.56
Common Raven	3	10		16	13	5	4		2	1	7	2										63	0.14	0.01	
Crow sp.													42		2					9		53		0.05	
Horned Lark								2	1				6							3	2	14		0.01	0.03
Purple Martin	9		12	21				9		24	22	291	44	30	41	16	33	5	17	111	146	831	0.12	0.63	2.26
Tree Swallow	145		13	31		9		4	14	32	10	72	10	13	15	49	3	21	25	7	25	498	0.55	0.27	0.39
N. Rough-winged Swallow	43	2	12	29		1	3	48	152	101	22	73	477	89	62	77	35	53	106	29	33	1447	0.25	1.31	0.51
Bank Swallow										4	1	1	4		2	2		1	5	1		21		0.02	
Cliff Swallow								15	44	107		20	2	1	272	5	52	196	65	15		794		0.78	
Barn Swallow	156		11	102		9	5	53	74	201	43	132	318	56	88	216	65	39	130	91	397	2186	0.78	1.48	6.16
Carolina Chickadee	106	26	27	84	8	7	26	15	128	94	25	117	150	288	173	97	112	77	47	103	47	1757	0.79	1.41	0.73
Black-capped Chickadee	1	25																				26	0.07		
chickadee sp.		5																				5	0.01		
Tufted Titmouse	142	18	40	105	17	15	56	25	109	95	46	142	196	398	326	176	106	125	118	146	42	2443	1.09	1.98	0.65
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	55		17	95	17																186	0.52		
White-breasted Nuthatch	29	4	4	20	6	4	5	16	6	24	cw	36	29	49	16	2	9	11	8	5		283	0.2	0.21	
Brown-headed Nuthatch				3			1	2	20	24	3	43	59	75	94	22	41	33	15	31	38	504	0.01	0.46	0.59
Brown Creeper	4	26		9	35	4														1		79	0.22	0	
Carolina Wren	79	7	63	183		3	23	31	165	112	49	143	105	351	183	106	132	54	74	128	99	2090	0.99	1.61	1.53
House Wren	16	3	8	9	6	2	1	4	26	23		22	2	33	5	13	5	6	3	4	2	193	0.12	0.14	0.03
Winter Wren	5	35	1	12	58	13																124	0.34		

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast	
Sedge Wren																					2	2				0.03
Marsh Wren									1												9	10			0	0.14
Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher	43		25	28			49	16	128	99	47	87	105	241	214	162	106	113	87	96	37	1683	0.4	1.48	0.57	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	118		19	174	41																355	0.98			
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5						1	2	24	11		4	7		3	21		7	2	15		102	0.02	0.09		
Eastern Bluebird	50		22	54		1	9	46	62	73	78	116	197	156	131	41	42	39	38	125	58	1338	0.38	1.13	0.9	
Veery		132		21	91	35			3	5		3	3	1	2	3			4		1	304	0.77	0.02	0.02	
Gray-cheeked Thrush																		1	2			3		0		
Swainson's Thrush				1	1		5		4	5	1	5		3	3	2	1	2	2			35	0.02	0.03		
Hermit Thrush	1	17		12	54	3			5	2		1	2			1				1		99	0.24	0.01		
Wood Thrush	19	11	6	58	4	12	20	15	28	25	27	31	14	52	41	16	23	8	19	10	14	453	0.36	0.3	0.22	
thrush sp.															1					1		2		0		
American Robin	298	176	62	250	76	92	7	78	532	399	93	442	121	210	62	70	148	48	32	149	12	3357	2.66	2.35	0.19	
Gray Catbird	53	109	15	55	32	28	6	6	59	40	6	92	55	44	126	40	18	20	20	51	28	903	0.83	0.57	0.43	
Northern Mockingbird	15	3	12	71			7	27	128	70	45	106	128	130	116	23	35	25	60	156	111	1268	0.3	1.03	1.72	
Brown Thrasher	45	15	10	31		4	3	14	68	36	13	45	34	47	31	15	28	4	21	44	29	537	0.3	0.39	0.45	
European Starling	106	6	28	187		30	8	112	443	237	73	384	116	149	50	75	188	32	91	192	229	2736	1.01	2.11	3.55	
American Pipit								5	3											2		10		0.01		
Cedar Waxwing	13	44	63	141	25	12	10		219	61	42	61	12	25	15	6	48			44		841	0.85	0.53		
Ovenbird	51	69	31	108	76	19	36		9	2	50	13	36	95	159	68	10	52	38	62	17	1001	1.08	0.59	0.26	
Worm-eating Warbler	5	2	9	29	2	2	9		7	2		1	2	1	2	2	1			4	3	83	0.16	0.02	0.05	
Louisiana Waterthrush	16		3	1	1	3	8		1		6		5	11	10	10	4	8	2	24		113	0.09	0.08		
Northern Waterthrush			3	1		1	1		5	1	1	3		2	3	24		1	1	1		48	0.02	0.04		
Blue-winged Warbler									20	1		cw		2	3	6		1				33		0.03		

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast	
Golden-winged Warbler										1												1			0	
Black & White Warbler	47	51	18	53	28	14	27	1	17	3	cw	11	43	4	68	51	3	16	27	47	6	535	0.66	0.29	0.09	
Prothonotary Warbler									14	6		3	11	45	29	20	5	6	19	53	48	259		0.21	0.74	
Swainson's Warbler	8		1																	2	6	17	0.02	0	0.09	
Tennessee Warbler	2								3													5	0.01	0		
Orange-crowned Warbler																1			1			2		0		
Nashville Warbler										1												1		0		
Kentucky Warbler				2			6				5		4	1		5		2	1	6	1	33	0.02	0.02	0.02	
Common Yellowthroat	19	38	16	1	2	11	12	21	30	31	27	29	45	101	92	104	26	6	12	43	34	700	0.27	0.56	0.53	
Hooded Warbler	73	18	30	78	9	8	56	1	2	1	13	3	11	31	66	16	2	15	13	62	8	516	0.75	0.23	0.12	
American Redstart	4	5	2	10	1	3	10	2	6	8	2	6	6	15	27		4		6	51		168	0.1	0.13		
Cape May Warbler	5	1	1				1		3	5		4							1			21	0.02	0.01		
Cerulean Warbler				5																cw		5	0.01			
Northern Parula	58	13	20	10	10		27	5	44	11	34	23	20	80	65	101	24	31	25	57	61	719	0.38	0.51	0.95	
Magnolia Warbler						2				1		cw			7		1					11	0.01	0.01		
Bay-breasted Warbler	1																					1	0			
Blackburnian Warbler	9	26	6	52	81	13			1	2	cw	cw				1						191	0.52	0		
Yellow Warbler	2			26		1			9	7	1	2	10	3	13	8		1	7	2	6	98	0.08	0.06	0.09	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	40	293	5	19	50	32	3		3	2				1	1	1						450	1.22	0.01		
Blackpoll Warbler			1	1		3	1			1				2								9	0.02	0		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	55	122	9	87	118	55	19		14	14	3	20	3	5	29	14	6	5	9	15		602	1.29	0.14		
Palm Warbler	4	1						1	12	1		2	1		10	6		6	1			45	0.01	0.04		
Pine Warbler	2		2	3			30	2	33	21	14	24	86	158	210	38	66	68	32	57	64	910	0.1	0.8	0.99	

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast
Yellow-rumped Warbler	34			4		10	37	17	427	91	2	104	255	5	79	227	1	103	303	89	8	1796	0.24	1.68	0.12
Yellow-throated Warbler	8		3				5		4				26	25	80	35	3	43	28	29	15	304	0.04	0.27	0.23
Prairie Warbler							11	3	8	5	27	14	49	28	101	40	2	14	18	48	92	460	0.03	0.35	1.43
Black-throated Green Warbler	46	165	31	51	236	17	22	2	6	6	cw	3				2	1		1	8	2	599	1.57	0.03	0.03
Canada Warbler	36	148	4	99	127	61	1		1			cw	1			1						479	1.32	0	
Wilson's Warbler									1			1										2		0	
Yellow-breasted Chat	1		2				12		8	3	13	3	3	25	65	17	3		8	19	21	203	0.04	0.16	0.33
Eastern Towhee	201	277	96	188	98	65	23	26	197	103	19	120	129	196	149	99	60	32	40	71	69	2258	2.63	1.22	1.07
Bachman's Sparrow													5									5		0	
Chipping Sparrow	26	5	18	44	3	6	19	23	86	75	31	74	198	219	190	73	63	68	213	128	20	1582	0.34	1.42	0.31
Field Sparrow	17	5	16	15			10	22	31	13	23	31	8	19	37	25		7	6	10		295	0.17	0.23	
Lark Sparrow													2									2		0	
Savannah Sparrow								1	11	5	3	6	8		7	49	4		12	1	3	110		0.11	0.05
Grasshopper Sparrow			2					21	1	5	13	10	2			4	1		5			64	0.01	0.06	
Nelson's Sparrow																					3	3			0.05
Seaside Sparrow																					11	11			0.17
Song Sparrow	171	16	96	254	10	36		4	33	39	9	96	7	55	3	14	21	4	1	3		872	1.62	0.28	
Swamp Sparrow									12			2	10	2	6	21		6	3	1	2	65		0.06	0.03
White-throated Sparrow	21						1	44	263	53	1	74	137	5	97	384	3	127	112	111	2	1435	0.06	1.39	0.03
White-crowned Sparrow	15							11	2	2					1	12						43	0.04	0.03	
Dark-eyed Junco	38	325	4	88	302	126												2		22		907	2.45	0.02	
Summer Tanager	1							5	12	3	5	2	33	132	169	34	41	51	49	48	35	620	0	0.58	0.54
Scarlet Tanager	18	30	14	56	15	7	20	2	9	12	42	21	16	37	34	10	6	16	15	5		385	0.44	0.22	

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast
Northern Cardinal	179	9	88	188	2	15	55	50	432	257	79	377	248	682	433	253	235	106	186	262	133	4269	1.48	3.55	2.06
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	9	38	6	29	6	13	7	5	3	15	1	2		1	5			2		1	1	144	0.3	0.03	0.02
Blue Grosbeak	1		3				1	10	7	12	6	13	29	30	53	20	25	4	37	29	21	301	0.01	0.27	0.33
Indigo Bunting	17	35	56	105	46	10	38	7	36	68	75	58	29	166	161	72	44	4	46	20	14	1107	0.85	0.78	0.22
Painted Bunting																					11	11			0.17
Bobolink	3		1	15				26	1	2			1		6	6	5		1		22	89	0.05	0.05	0.34
Red-winged Blackbird	121		65	83		15		13	124	64	19	76	126	98	41	285	21	23	21	22	273	1490	0.79	0.92	4.23
Eastern Meadowlark	13		6	7			3	54	2	17	26	16	59	10	26	15	39	4	25	25	23	370	0.08	0.31	0.36
Rusty Blackbird	15										1											16	0.04	0	
Common Grackle	90		47	100		26	7	116	500	215	81	270	168	229	145	131	101	50	216	204	270	2966	0.75	2.39	4.19
Boat-tailed Grackle																					119	119			1.84
Brown-headed Cowbird	15	4	4	12			18	21	84	59	30	64	69	113	109	82	62	72	59	71	62	1010	0.15	0.88	0.96
Orchard Oriole			2	7				5	10	18	6	13	43	25	56	3	22	9	24	30	35	308	0.02	0.26	0.54
Baltimore Oriole				9					2	8		6			3				1	1		30	0.02	0.02	
Purple Finch	3							1				4										8	0.01	0	
House Finch	18	4	29	58		3		14	106	80	11	101	38	132	61	25	90	12	16	46	26	870	0.31	0.72	0.4
Red Crossbill				28	25																	53	0.15		
Pine Siskin	220	14	13	23	8	29	2		4	30	5	55	262	13	33	7	58	180			13	969	0.86	0.64	0.2
American Goldfinch	160	43	44	108	9	34	28	65	110	190	24	170	83	333	134	45	53	84	58	46	2	1823	1.18	1.38	0.03
House Sparrow	4			10				5	21	12	9	49	22	60	7	20	12	31	14	67	31	374	0.04	0.32	0.48
total species	110	82	94	112	65	71	85	99	137	134	106	124	133	116	126	129	106	114	127	129	165	247			
total individuals	4155	3105	1664	4904	2329	1197	1259	1750	7061	4956	2107	6823	6564	8158	8590	5646	3504	3461	4485	5122	12594	99434			
# participants	31	25	14	18	15	9	17	8	32	48	5	31	29	41	44	20	23	16	13	17	17	473			

cw: count week

Species	Trans	Bals	Hend	Bunc	Bl Mts	Grdfr	Hang	Ired	Meck	Fors	Rock	Grbr	SoPi	ChHl	Jord	Durh	Wake	Falls	Kerr	RaRo	Onsl	total	mtns	pied	coast
total party hours	76.0	75.6	21.7	67.2	59.6	24.7	36.0	12.0	78.7	98.0	38.2	105.	71.0	145.	129.	68.4	46.7	68.2	70.3	82.0	64.5	1439.6			
hours on foot	25.0	54.2	10.2	26.7	50.1		34.0	5.0	65.7	88.0	18.0	85.0	31.0	126.7	97.9	62.0	39.0	51.2	50.3	36.2	37.0	993.6			
hours by car	51.0	21.3	11.5	40.5	9.5		2.0	7.0	13.0	10.0	20.2	20.0	40.0	12.2	19.5	6.4	7.7	6.9	20.0	35.2	23.5	377.7			
hours by bicycle																						0.0			
hours by canoe/kayak/boat														6.5	12.5					10.5	4.0	33.5			
hours ATV																						0.0			
total party miles	269.0	150.6	86.9	301.2	87.1	46.4	27.0	75.0	317.0	156.0	129.8	315.0	427.8	252.3	200.2	76.4	72.0	77.9	169.5	434.8	350.2	4022.4			
miles on foot	25.0	48.2	8.7	18.9	54.6	12.9	22.5	3.0	36.5	41.0	9.3	49.0	19.0	102.0	72.0	44.5	40.0	34.5	31.5	26.0	10.2	709.6			
miles by car	244.0	102.3	78.2	282.3	32.5	33.5	4.50	72.0	280.5	115.0	120.5	274.0	408.8	141.0	117.5	31.9	32.0	43.4	138.0	401.0	334.0	3286.9			
miles by bicycle																						0.0			
miles canoe/kayak/boat														9.3	10.7					7.8	6.0	33.9			
miles by ATV																						0.00			
hours night	2.0	1.5							0.5		1.7	5.0	3.0	4.7	0.7	2.2		2.7	3.7	3.5	3.0	34.4			
miles night											3.0	3.0		1.5				2.0	3.7	14.1	10.5	37.8			
feeder hours	6.0											1.0	4.0	15.7				4.5	2.0		3.0	36.2			

Column Key for Table 1:

Trans	Transylvania County	Fors	Forsyth County	RaRo	Raven Rock
Bals	Balsam Mountain	Grbr	Greensboro	Onsl	Onslow County
Hend	Henderson County	SoPi	Southern Pines	mtns	mountains
Bunc	Buncombe County	ChHl	Chapel Hill	pied	Piedmont
Bl Mts	Black Mountains	Jord	Jordan Lake	coast	coast
Grdfr	Grandfather Mountain	Durh	Durham		
Hang	Hanging Rock	Wake	Wake County		
Ired	Iredell County	Falls	Falls Lake		
Meck	Mecklenburg County	Kerr	KerrLake		

General Field Notes

General Field Notes briefly report such items as rare sightings, unusual behaviors, significant nesting records, or summaries of such items.

First, second, or third sightings of species in either state must be submitted to the appropriate Bird Records Committee prior to publication in The Chat.

First Record of Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) in North Carolina

Laetitia Desbordes[1] and Harry LeGrand[2]

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On 15 May 2014, Desbordes and Vincent Gaillard were birding near the ferry terminal at Cedar Island, Carteret County, NC. Around 1700, they observed a breeding-plumaged Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) feeding on the beach next to several Semipalmated Plovers (*C. semipalmatus*), though still keeping a distance from them and not mingling with them as shown in Figure 1.

The Common Ringed Plover was slightly larger with a heavy head and with a large white front extending to the eye (Figure 2). The clearly contrasting facial pattern with deep black cheeks, a large white supercilium, broad black lores, and a long bill with extensive orange base and small black tip (less than half of the bill) were used to separate this bird from Semipalmated Plover. Photo examination of the toes showed virtually no webbing, a crucial separation mark from the Semipalmated Plover, which has partial webbing between the front three toes (Figure 3, especially the inset photo).

Desbordes and Gaillard watched the plovers for about an hour, at distances as close as 20 meters. Although the weather was cloudy, the light and viewing conditions were very good. Despite the long viewing time, they heard no vocalization from the Common Ringed Plover. They were not able to obtain photos of the bird in flight.

The Common Ringed Plover is essentially a bird of the Palearctic region (Eurasia). However, it does nest in the far north in North America, such as on Baffin Island and Ellesmere Island and in Greenland. It also nests sparingly on some islands off western Alaska (Dunn and Alderfer 2011, Sibley 2014). Unlike most North American breeders, it migrates back to the Old World for wintering. Thus, its presence anywhere in the lower 48 states is quite exceptional and far out of range. It is not overly rare during migration in

Newfoundland (Clark and Brown 2007). On the other hand, Garver and Iliff (2011) stated that Massachusetts's second record of Common Ringed Plover, in September 2010, was just the fifth for the lower 48 states. Though the species has been recorded in New York (BirdLife International 2015) on the Avibase online database, this website shows no other Atlantic coast state south of New York with a record, other than North Carolina (this record).

The North Carolina Bird Records Committee reviewed and accepted the photos and Rare Bird Report form submitted by the two observers for the Common Ringed Plover (Piephoff et al., 2015). Because photos were accepted for documentation, the species was placed on the Definitive List.

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Figure 1. Comparison of Common Ringed Plover (left) with Semipalmated Plover (right) at Cedar Island, NC, 15 May 2014. Photo by Vincent Gaillard.

Figure 2. Profile view of the Common Ringed Plover at Cedar Island. Photo by Vincent Gaillard.

Figure 3. View of the feet of the Common Ringed Plover, showing an apparent lack of webbing; Cedar Island, NC. Photo by Vincent Gaillard.

BRIEFS FOR THE FILES

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(All dates Summer 2015, unless otherwise noted)

Briefs for the Files is a seasonal collection of uncommon-to-rare or unusual North and South Carolina bird sightings and events which do not necessarily require a more detailed Field Note or article. Reports of your sightings are due the 20th of the month after the end of the previous season.

Winter	*December 1 - February 28*	*due March 20*
Spring	*March 1 - May 31*	*due June 20*
Summer	*June 1 - July 31*	*due August 20*
Fall	*August 1 - November 30*	*due December 20*

Reports may be submitted in any format, but I prefer that you use email, list multiple sightings in taxonomic order (rather than by date or location), and type your report directly into the body of the email. If your sightings are in a file, please copy-and-paste the text into the body of the email, rather than sending an attachment.

Suitable reports for the Briefs include any sightings you feel are unusual, rare, noteworthy, or just plain interesting to you in any way! It is my responsibility to decide which reports merit inclusion in the Briefs.

Please be sure to include details of any rare or hard-to-identify birds.

I rely in part on sightings reported in Carolinabirds. Please don't, however, rely on me to pick up your sightings from Carolinabirds. Instead, please also send your sightings directly to me as described above.

If I feel that your sighting warrants a Field Note, I will contact either you or the appropriate state Field Notes editor. You may, of course, submit your Field Note directly to the editor without going through me.

Reports published herein may include sightings that require review by the state bird record's committee. Such reports are not considered accepted records until, and unless, they are so ruled by the committee.

Abbreviations: **BRP** – Blue Ridge Parkway, **Co** – County, **et al.** – and others, **m. obs.** – multiple observers, **NC** – North Carolina, **NF** – National Forest, **NWR** – National Wildlife Refuge, **Rd** – Road, **SC** – South Carolina, **WTP** – Water Treatment Plant

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck: Individuals, possibly the same individual, were found at two sites in Carteret Co, NC—at the brackish pond adjacent to the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, 20 Jun (Mark Kosiewski) and at the willow pond at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum, eastern end of Harkers Island, 17-18 Jul (Douglas Racine). The latter bird wore a leg band that revealed it was banded in Louisiana in Feb 2014 (*fide* Paul Link). Three were seen in flight over Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, 16 Jun (*fide* Susan Campbell). Three birds stuck around Twin Lakes in Sunset Beach, Brunswick Co, NC, for four days, 19 Jul (Jamie Adams, Sherry Lane) through 22 Jul (Sam Cooper). Were the three whistling-ducks seen at Twin Lakes in July the same three whistling-ducks seen at Mattamuskeet NWR back in June?

Blue-winged Teal: Individuals on Winston Lake, Forsyth Co, NC, 13 Jun (Mike Conway) and at Riverbend Park, Catawba Co, NC, 26 Jun through 6 Jul (Dwayne Martin) were unusual for those inland sites during the summer period.

Northern Shoveler: A drake on Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, 20 Jun (Henry Link) was unusual for summer.

Ring-necked Duck: A drake lingered on Boykin Millpond, Kershaw Co, SC, during the summer (*fide* Steve Patterson).

Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, 19 July 2015, Sunset Beach, Brunswick, Co, NC. Photo by Sherry Lane.

Surf Scoter: An immature drake on the Bogue Sound in Morehead City, Carteret Co, NC, 9 Jun (Craig Harms) was interesting because, as John Fussell notes, "most scoters that linger into the summer in Carteret County are Black Scoters."

Ruddy Duck: A drake, possibly injured, was seen on Salem Lake, Forsyth Co, NC, 17 June through 27 Jul (Carol Cunningham, et al.).

Northern Bobwhite: A moribund male bobwhite collected by the NC Museum of Natural Sciences, after apparently colliding with the window of an office building in downtown Raleigh, Wake Co, NC, 5 Jun (Perry Sugg, fide Brian O'Shea), was unusual for such an urban area.

Ring-necked Pheasant: Seven on the Cape Lookout National Seashore, Carteret Co, NC, 18 July (Kyle Lee) was an encouraging count of the Core Banks population.

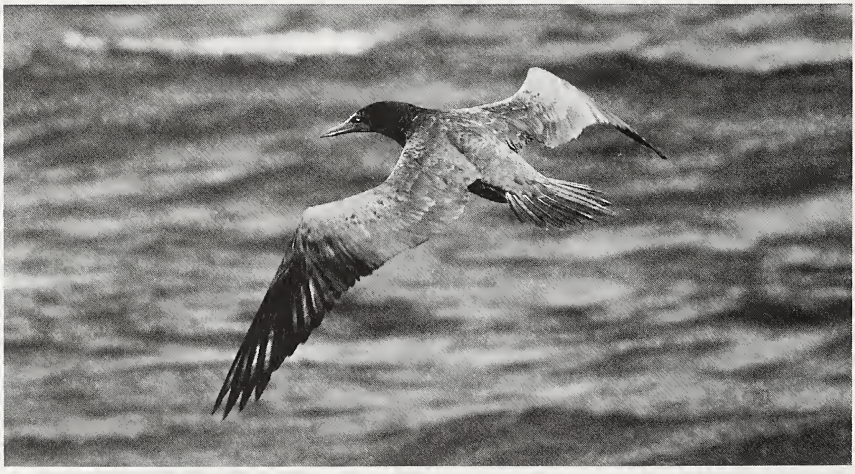
Common Loon: Lingering into summer were two off Jennette's Pier in Nags Head, Dare Co, NC, 19 Jun (Jim Gould) and one off North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, until 30 Jun (Gilbert Grant).

Trindade Petrel: A dark-morph individual was well-seen and photographed during a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 6 Jun (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Great Shearwater: A moribund individual was found on the beach in North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, 8 Jun (Gilbert Grant).

Wilson's Storm-Petrel: Three seen just beyond the breakers off Kill Devil Hills, Dare Co, NC, 3 Jun (Jim Gould) were unusual so close to shore.

White-tailed Tropicbird: On pelagic trips out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, an adult bird was seen 1 Jun, and two birds were seen 4 Jun (Brian Patteson, et al.).



Brown Booby, 25 July 2015, off Hatteras, Dare Co, NC.
Photo by Irvin Pitts.

Red-billed Tropicbird: An immature bird was seen on a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 1 Jun (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Magnificent Frigatebird: Two frigatebirds were seen off of Holden Beach, Brunswick Co, NC, 5 Jul (Chris Davenport). A juvenile frigatebird was photographed off of Crescent Beach, Horry Co, SC, 13 Jun (Rhett Quigley).

Brown Booby: An immature bird was found amongst a foraging flock of shearwaters during a pelagic trip out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, 25 Jul (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Northern Gannet: An immature bird flying northbound off North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, 5 Jun (Gilbert Grant) was late.

Great Cormorant: Rare summer sightings were made of individuals in North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, an immature bird, 5 Jun (Gilbert Grant) and on the northern jetty at Little River Inlet, Horry Co, SC, 20 Jul (Sam Cooper).

Anhinga: Individuals near Historic Bethabara Park, Forsyth Co, NC, 12 Jul (Jean Aldrich) and at Cane Creek Park, Union Co, NC, where photographed, 21 Jul (George Andrews) were noteworthy for sites so far outside the coastal plain.

American White Pelican: 65 in flight over the Combahee River near Nemours Plantation in northern Beaufort Co, SC, 16 Jun (Chris Hill) was an unusually high count for the summer period.

Least Bittern: Good numbers were seen at Cedar Island NWR, most along NC-12, Carteret Co, NC, from mid-June to early July, with a high one-day count of 24 bitterns made 28 Jun (John Fussell, et al).

Great Egret: 24 at Archie Elledge WTP (limited access), Forsyth Co, NC, 25 Jul (John Haire) was a good count for that area.

Great Egrets, 19 July 2015, Magnolia Plantation, Charleston Co, SC.
Photo by Ed Blitch.

Snowy Egret: Rare inland sightings were made of individuals at Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, 17 Jul (Martin Wall); in a cove at the upper end of Lake Norman in Catawba Co, NC, 23 Jul (Dwayne Martin); and in a small wetland along the Catawba River in Mecklenburg Co, NC, 25 Jul (Rob Van Epps).

Little Blue Heron: A few of the higher counts at inland sites were eight at Pee Dee NWR, Anson Co, NC, 8 Jul (Tom Ledford); 31, including one adult, at Lake Brandt, Guilford Co, NC, 17 Jul (Martin Wall); eight at Cane Creek Park, Union Co, NC, 21 Jul (George Andrews); and 14, including two adults, in a cove at the upper end of Lake Norman in Catawba Co, NC, 23 Jul into August (Dwayne Martin, Lori Owenby).

Reddish Egret: An immature bird on North Pond, Pea Island NWR, Dare Co, NC, 30 Jun (Audrey Whitlock) was a good find for that site during the mid-summer.

White Ibis: One at Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville Co, SC, 22 Jun (Paul Serridge) was a first for that park.

White-faced Ibis: From the Spring 2015 period, an adult White-faced Ibis was photographed on Raccoon Island, Carteret Co, NC, 15 May (Greg Perry). Considering the date, was this individual attempting to breed in that area?

Roseate Spoonbill: 52 around Hog Island Pond at Bear Island Wildlife Management Area, Colleton Co, SC, 26 Jul (Lewis Burke, et al.) was a good count.

Swallow-tailed Kite: Individuals over farmland in southern Granville Co, NC, 3 Jun (Deck Stapleton) and over Howell Woods, Johnston Co, NC, 9 Jun (Ann Haverstock) were locally unusual. High counts in the area around NC's

Osprey, 17 July 2015, Trout Lake, Blowing Rock, Watauga Co, NC.
Photo by Phil Fowler.

only documented nesting site, along the Cape Fear River near the border of Bladen Co and Columbus Co, included eight on 6 Jun (Scott Winton) and four on 21 Jul (Sam Cooper). One in Yadkinville, Yadkin Co, NC, 27 Jul (Becky Clark, Jane Mahaley) provided the season's first sighting of a post-breeding wanderer in western NC. SC's high count was 70 over agricultural fields in Allendale, Allendale Co, SC, 21 Jul (Natalie Osborne Smith).

Mississippi Kite: Nesting was confirmed in a longleaf pine savannah on Camp Lejeune, Onslow Co, NC, when three adults, one carrying nesting material, were seen in mid-June (John DeLuca). Nesting took place for a second year in a row in a neighborhood in Morehead City, Carteret Co, NC, this summer (Bud Cross, John Fussell, et al.). Three active nests were found around Greensboro, Guilford Co, NC, along with 23 kites, 5 Jul (Elizabeth & Henry Link, Scott DePue). Since an active nest was first documented in 2004, Greensboro continues to be the northern-most breeding site of Mississippi Kites in our region. Charlotte (Mecklenburg County) is currently North Carolina's westernmost breeding site.

Northern Harrier: Harriers evidently bred in the northern part of Carteret Co, NC, this summer. After two, one an adult male, were first seen in the marshes at Cedar Island NWR, 14 Jun, the adult male was seen carrying prey to one of two other birds at that site, 5 Jul (John Fussell, et al.). A first-year bird seen over Raccoon Island, Carteret Co, NC, 10 Jul (Fussell, et al.) was probably raised in that area as well.

Cooper's Hawk: Nesting was confirmed just south of Nags Head Woods, Dare Co, NC, in July. After a juvenile was first heard calling 13 Jul, two juveniles were photographed 31 Jul (Jeff Lewis). This sighting may be the

Northern Harrier, 5 July 2015, Carteret Co, NC.
Photo by Steve Howell.

Limpkin, 28 July 2015, Lake Norman, Catawba Co, NC. Photo by Lori Owenby.

first time breeding by this species has been documented along the NC coast.

Northern Goshawk: From the Winter 2014-2015 period, a first-year goshawk was photographed attempting to prey on Northern Pintails at the Bodie Island Lighthouse Pond, Dare Co, NC, 3 Feb (John Haig). Most remarkable was the fact that this bird was well-photographed, as almost all previous goshawk sightings in the Carolinas have come without photographs.

Limpkin: One seen in a cove at the upper end of Lake Norman in Catawba Co, NC, 28 Jul (Dwayne Martin, et al.) and continuing in a nearby cove in Iredell Co, NC, through 16 Aug (Mike McCloy) provided NC with its fifth record of this tropical vagrant.

Black-necked Stilt: Locally unusual were two at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 6 Jun (Sam Cooper); five on Raccoon Island, Carteret Co, NC, 10 Jul (John Fussell, et al.); and five, including one juvenile, near the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, NC, 26 Jul (Fussell, et al.).

American Avocet: Two on mudflats at the upper end of Lake Norman in Catawba Co, near its border with Iredell Co, NC, 20 Jul (Monroe Pannell) were good finds inland.

Snowy Plover: One seen at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 1 Jun (Sam Cooper) through 7 Jun (Derb Carter, Ricky Davis) was probably the same individual seen at nearby Rich Inlet, border of New Hanover Co and Pender Co, NC, 27 Jun (Carter).

Wilson's Plover: Suggestive of breeding on the barrier strand southeast of the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, NC, was an adult making

Snowy Plover, 1 June 2015, New Hanover Co, NC. Photo by Sam Cooper.

distraction displays, 5 Jul (John Fussell, Steve Howell) and an adult seen with a juvenile bird, 17 Jul (Fussell, Howell).

Spotted Sandpiper: Three at Cedar Island NWR, Carteret Co, NC, 28 Jun (John Fussell, et al.) were somewhat early. 21 at Cedar Island NWR, 12 Jul (Fussell, et al.) and 16 at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 14 Jul (Sam Cooper) were good counts for mid-July.

Upland Sandpiper: In the grassy fields around the Wilmington International Airport, New Hanover Co, NC, one was seen 11 Jul, and three were seen 12 Jul (Sam Cooper).

Stilt Sandpiper: One at the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, NC, 5 Jul (John Fussell, et al.) was somewhat early.

Pectoral Sandpiper: One at the Cedar Island Ferry Terminal, Carteret Co, NC, 5 Jul (John Fussell, et al.) was somewhat early.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Five at Archie Elledge WTP (limited access), Forsyth Co, NC, 6 Jun (John Haire) were somewhat late.

Wilson's Phalarope: One at Ft Fisher, New Hanover Co, NC, 15 Jun (Greg Massey) was a later spring migrant, while three at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access), Jasper Co, SC, 22 Jul (Steve Calver) were somewhat early fall migrants.

South Polar Skua: On pelagic trips out of Hatteras, Dare Co, NC, three were seen 4 Jun, and one was seen 13 Jun (Brian Patteson, et al.).

Parasitic Jaeger: From-shore sightings included two, including a dark-morph individual, off of Kill Devil Hills, Dare Co, NC, 3 Jun (Jim Gould)

and one harassing an Osprey off North Topsail Beach, Onslow Co, NC, 7 Jun (Jamie Adams).

Black-headed Gull: The departure date for the first-summer individual seen at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, in late May and early June, was 7 Jun (Ricky Davis), not 6 Jun as previously reported.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Two at Mason Inlet, New Hanover Co, NC, 14 Jul (Sam Cooper) were unusual for the summer period.

Sooty Tern: One was seen on Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, Charleston Co, SC, 5 Jun (Kathy Greider, David McLean, Jack Rogers). A moribund individual was photographed on the Core Banks in Carteret Co, NC, 26 Jun (Forrest Kraus).

Least Tern: NC and SC high counts were, respectively, 680 at Masonboro Inlet, New Hanover Co, 4 Jul (Mary Austin Smith) and 694 at the Savannah Spoil Site (restricted access), Jasper Co, 10 Jul (Steve Calver).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Possibly breeding in the northwestern corner of NC were individuals heard calling along Three Top Rd between Toliver and Woodford, Ashe Co, 29 Jun (Merrill Lynch) and along NC-88 in northern Watauga Co, 3 Jul (Lynch).

Red-cockaded Woodpecker: Two were seen at the same site along Texas Rd in southern Camden Co, NC, 8 Jun (Nick Flanders) where two were seen in July 2013. This area is near the northeastern limit of the species' range.

Peregrine Falcon: One seen over the Elkin & Allegheny Rail-Trail in Surry Co, NC, 14 Jun (Ron Storey) may have been attempting to breed.

Alder Flycatcher: Four to six were seen on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, NC, throughout the season (Rick Knight). At least three were seen around Black Balsam Knob, Haywood Co, NC, 15 Jun (Ryan Justice).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: One, either a female or immature male, was seen near the upper pond at Dobbins Farm, Anderson Co, SC, 27 Jun (Paul Serridge, et al.).

Tree Swallow: Tree Swallows successfully nested at Mattamuskeet NWR, Hyde Co, NC, this summer, near the eastern limit of the species' breeding range (Susan Campbell).

Cliff Swallow: Cliff Swallows were not able to build nests on the side of the Hampton Inn, a traditional nesting site, in Havelock, Craven Co, NC, this year, due to daily power-washing of the walls by the staff (John Fussell).

House Wren: Up to two were heard singing in a heavily-wooded yard in Greenville, Pitt Co, NC, somewhat east of the species' traditional breeding range, again this summer (Nick & Veronica Pantelidis).

Marsh Wren: 26, most of which were singing, along NC-12 at Cedar Island NWR, Carteret Co, NC, 19 Jul (John Fussell, et al.) was a good count.

Veery: One at the Archie Elledge WTP (limited access), Forsyth Co, NC, 3 Jun (Carol Cunningham) was somewhat late.

Swainson's Thrush: One heard singing along the BRP just south of Balsam Gap, Buncombe Co, NC, in June (Marilyn Westphal) and 22 Jun (Luke Cannon) may have been attempting to breed in that area.

Hermit Thrush: Possibly breeding in the NC mountains were two around Black Balsam Knob, Haywood Co, 4 Jun (Henry Link); two along the BRP near Balsam Gap, Buncombe Co, 22 Jun (Luke Cannon); and up to four on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, throughout the period (Rick Knight).

Cedar Waxwing: Sightings near the coast included three at North River Game Land, Camden Co, NC, 8 Jun (Nick Flanders); a pair on the campus of UNC-Wilmington, New Hanover Co, NC, 23-30 Jun (Sam Cooper); and three at Alligator River NWR, Dare Co, NC, 10 Jul (Jeff Lewis).

Louisiana Waterthrush: One in Asheville, Buncombe Co, NC, 1 Jul (Simon Thompson) was thought to have been an early migrant.

Prothonotary Warbler: 105 at Alligator River NWR, Dare Co, NC, 1 Jun (Audrey Whitlock) was an impressive concentration.

Swainson's Warbler: Nine on the Dismal Swamp Breeding Bird Survey route in Gates Co, NC, 19 Jun (Nick Flanders, David Hughes) was a good count.

Mourning Warbler: An adult male, presumably the same individual seen at the site last summer, was seen and heard singing along the Art Loeb Trail at Black Balsam Knob, Haywood Co, NC, 4 Jun (Henry Link) through 26 Jun (Mark Vukovich).

Magnolia Warbler: Possibly breeding in the NC mountains were four males on Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, 8-23 Jun (Rick Knight) and one seen and heard singing along the BRP in the northwestern corner of Caldwell Co, 18 Jun (Monroe Pannell).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: One seen and heard singing along Black Balsam Rd, Haywood Co, NC, 5 Jun (Mark Simpson, Marilyn Westphal) was suggestive of attempted breeding in that area.

Bachman's Sparrow: One singing individual along Little Rd in the Croatan NF in Craven Co, NC, 1 Jul and 17 Jul (John Fussell) was unusual for that northern portion of the Croatan NF.

Vesper Sparrow: Counts from the northwestern mountains of NC included one or two on Round Bald, Roan Mountain, Mitchell Co, 8 Jun through July (Rick Knight); three to five at the bald along Rich Mountain Rd in Watauga Co, 14 Jun (Ryan Justice); and three singing birds at Pond Mountain Game Land, Ashe Co, 18 Jun (Merrill Lynch).

Grasshopper Sparrow: A singing individual at North River Farms (limited access), Carteret Co, NC, 26 Jul (John Fussell, Matthew King, et al.) was unusual for that site during the breeding season.

Seaside Sparrow: Counts of 70, including many juveniles, at two stops along NC-12, Cedar Island NWR, Carteret Co, NC, during the morning of 28

Jun (John Fussell, et al.) and 105 at Cedar Island NWR, 5 Jul (Fussell) were "representative of the abundance of the species in the Cedar Island Marshes."

Black-headed Grosbeak: From the Spring 2007 period, an apparent adult male Black-headed Grosbeak was photographed at a feeder in Boone, Watauga Co, NC, 11 May 2007 (Steven Bullock). The bird was seen for only a four-hour stretch during the afternoon. Pending approval by the NC Bird Records Committee, this sighting will become the first of this vagrant from the western United States in the mountain region of NC.

Painted Bunting: The territorial male continued at Wilson Educational Forest, Wilson Co, NC, throughout the summer (Ann Brice, m. obs.). Of interest, Ricky Davis notes "the bird was singing an Indigo Bunting song almost exclusively."

Dickcissel: In the field along Baldwin Rd in northeastern Guilford Co, NC, where the species was found last summer, four birds were counted 11 Jun (Martin Wall). At another site where the species was found last summer, near the intersection of Battleground Rd and Mt Olive Rd, just north of Cowpens, Spartanburg Co, SC, at least two birds were seen 4 Jul (Pam Ford).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: One, either a female or a first-year male, visited a yard in Hobucken, Pamlico Co, NC, where photographed, 14-15 Jun (Teal Sadler).

Red Crossbill: Good numbers were had in the Black Mountains near the border of Buncombe Co and Yancey Co, NC, during the period, with high counts of 55 on 11 Jun and at least 40 on 16 Jul (Marilyn Westphal).

Pine Siskin: One visiting a feeder in Gastonia, Gaston Co, NC, 7 Jun (Steve Tracy) was late for a site outside the mountains.

Painted Bunting, 12 July 2015, Huntington Beach State Park, Georgetown Co, SC. Photo by Lee Weber.

CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

www.carolinabirdclub.org

The Carolina Bird Club is a non-profit organization which represents and supports the birding community in the Carolinas through its official website, publications, meetings, workshops, trips, and partnerships, whose mission is

- To promote the observation, enjoyment, and study of birds.
- To provide opportunities for birders to become acquainted, and to share information and experience.
- To maintain well-documented records of birds in the Carolinas.
- To support the protection and conservation of birds and their habitats and foster an appreciation and respect of natural resources.
- To promote educational opportunities in bird and nature study.
- To support research on birds of the Carolinas and their habitats.

Membership is open to all persons interested in the conservation, natural history, and study of wildlife with particular emphasis on birds. Dues, contributions, and bequests to the Club may be deductible from state and federal income and estate taxes. Make checks payable to Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Send checks or correspondence regarding membership or change of address to Headquarters Secretary, or visit : http://www.carolinabirdclub.org/about.html. Dues include $6 for subscription to the *CBC Newsletter* and $7 for subscription to *The Chat*.

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